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Georgia Southern University Athletics



Defense, Timely Touchdowns Send Eagles Past Troy

The Eagles cap a three-game homestand vs. Texas State next Saturday.

Marc Gignac

Football

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STATESBORO – [Gerald Green](#) ran for 109 yards, including a 69-yard touchdown, and [Derrick Canteen](#) sealed the win with a late interception as Georgia Southern notched a 20-13 Sun Belt Conference football win over Troy Saturday afternoon in Paulson Stadium.

Trailing 13-6 in the third quarter, Georgia Southern (5-2, 3-2) scored the final 14 points of the game to break a three-game losing skid against the Trojans. Green cut up the middle for a 69-yard run with 7:37 left in the third, and after the defense posted a 3-and-out, Werts went around the end for a 5-yard TD run late in the stanza.

The Eagles had a chance to add to their lead but missed a 34-yard field goal with 2:40 remaining in the game, and Troy got the ball back on its own 20-yard line. The Trojans (4-3, 2-2) worked the ball down to the Eagle 16-yard line, but [Reynard Ellis](#) tipped a Jacob Free pass attempt and Canteen picked it off to seal the win.

Eagles of the Game: Canteen finished the day with two interceptions, a break-up and four tackles, and [Quin Williams](#) posted four tackles and a tackle for loss. [Logan Wright](#) ran for 78 yards on 13 carries, and [Shai Werts](#) ran for 50 yards and completed 12 of 13 passes for 85 yards. [J.D. King](#) ran for 61 yards before an injury forced him out of action.

Key Moments:

With Georgia Southern trailing 13-6, Green took the handoff through a huge hole and sprinted 69 yards to the end zone for the first offensive touchdown of the day for either team, tying the score midway through the third quarter.

The Eagle defense got off the field in three plays on Troy's next drive, and the offense went back to work. [NaJee Thompson](#) made a circus, one-handed grab on a 35-yard pass from Werts to move the ball down to the 5-yard line. Werts took it in from there as Georgia Southern opened a 20-13 advantage with 2:18 remaining in the third quarter.

Troy's only touchdown of the day came from its defense. Dell Pettus picked off a long Werts pass and took it 44 yards for a touchdown, giving Troy a 7-3 lead with 9:25 left in the second quarter.

Stats: The Eagle defense had five 3-and-outs, two interceptions and held the Trojans to 5 of 14 on third down.

Notes: Canteen now has four interceptions on the season. Troy's interception return was the Trojans' fourth defensive touchdown in the last three games.

Scoring Plays:

GS – [Alex Raynor](#) 23-yard FG – 10:18 2nd, 3-0

TROY – Pettus 44-yard INT return – 9:25 2nd, 3-7

GS – Raynor 35-yard FG – 2:28 2nd, 6-7

TROY – Evan Legassey 35-yard FG – 1:05 2nd, 6-10

TROY – Legassey 20-yard FG – 8:26 3rd, 6-13

GS – Green 69-yard TD run – 7:37 3rd, 13-13

GS – Werts 5-yard run – 2:18 3rd, 20-13

Up Next: The Eagles play their third straight home game when they play host to Texas State Nov. 14, in Paulson Stadium. Kickoff is set for 3:30 p.m. on ESPN3.